

Quarterly
NEWS
Letter

VOL. XXVI

Summer 1961

No. 3

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Martin S. Mitau

CHECK LIST OF 'LEAF BOOKS'

By John Borden, David Magee and Duncan Olmsted

THE GROLIER CLUB OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

By Gar Schmitt

SERENDIPITY

NOTES ON PUBLICATIONS :: EXHIBITIONS

ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP

£c. £c.

*Published for its members by The Book Club
of California, 545 Sutter Street,
San Francisco*

The Book Club of California

FOUNDED in 1912, The Book Club of California is a non-profit association of book-lovers and collectors who have a special interest in Pacific Coast history, literature, and fine printing. Its chief aims are to further the interests of book collectors and to promote an understanding and appreciation of fine books.

The Club is limited to 850 members. When vacancies exist membership is open to all who are in sympathy with its aims and whose applications are approved by the Board of Directors. Regular Membership involves no responsibilities beyond payment of the annual dues. Dues date from the month of the member's election. Regular membership is \$15.00; Sustaining, \$25.00; Patron, \$100.00.

Members receive the *Quarterly News-Letter* and all parts of the current Keepsake series, *Early California Firehouses and Equipment*. They have the privilege, but not the obligation, of buying the Club publications which are limited, as a rule, to one copy per member.

Officers & Directors

MARTIN S. MITAU, *President* JOSEPH BRANSTEN, *Vice President*
GEORGE L. HARDING, *Treasurer*
ROBERT BELL, *Executive Secretary*
KERWIN WHITNAH, *Assistant Secretary*

Directors whose terms expire in 1962:

ARTHUR L. BLOOMFIELD GLENN S. DUMKE JOHN A. HUSSEY
MARTIN S. MITAU ALBERT SHUMATE

Directors whose terms expire in 1963:

J. TERRY BENDER GEORGE P. HAMMOND MICHAEL HARRISON
GEORGE L. HARDING OSCAR LEWIS

Directors whose terms expire in 1964:

JOSEPH BRANSTEN HENRY H. CLIFFORD WARREN HOWELL
THEODORE M. LILIENTHAL JAMES D. HART

Committee Chairmen:

Publications, JAMES D. HART *Keepsakes*, ALBERT SHUMATE
House, MRS. JOHN I. WALTER *1961 Editor*, ALBERT SHUMATE
Library, J. TERRY BENDER *1962 Editor*, OSCAR LEWIS
Membership, ARTHUR L. BLOOMFIELD *Exhibits*, DUNCAN H. OLMSTED

Quarterly News-Letter

DAVID MAGEE, *Editor-in-chief*
DON FLEMING GEORGE L. HARDING
JOHN BORDEN LEWIS ALLEN

Extra copies of Keepsakes or *News-Letters*, when available, are sold to members at 50c each. Membership dues and contributions (including books or documents at current market value, suitable for the Club's library) are deductible in computing income taxes.

Quarterly NEWS Letter

VOL. XXVI

Summer 1961

No. 3

The President's Page

THE very successful two-year administration of the Book Club, in the capable hands of David Magee, has recently come to a close. His term of office was marked by adherence to the best traditions and ideals of the Club. It was a period of progress wherein the original standards and aims set for the Club nearly fifty years ago have been encouraged and maintained.

Particularly worthy of note during David Magee's presidency is the impressive list of Club publications, highlighted by *Figure Prints of Old Japan* and *Landscape Prints of Old Japan*. These two books, our Christmas books of 1959 and 1960 respectively, may at some not too distant future be regarded as high points in the history of Club publications.

Additionally, the Club's membership of 741 individual members and 109 library members, a total of eight hundred and fifty members, together with an appreciable waiting list, is evidence that the Club is fulfilling its mission.

The Book Club of California

A source of genuine gratification to all was the response to an appeal for changing memberships from Regular (\$15.00) to Sustaining (\$25.00) or Patron (\$100.00). We now have 128 Sustaining Members and 7 Patrons. This is most encouraging, and it is hoped that you will bear in mind when renewing your dues that the Club exists and thrives on the continuing support of its members. Every extra dollar is a help.

Elsewhere in these pages will be found a report of the Annual Meeting, the election of new officers and the appointment of committee chairmen. The full committees are listed herewith:

STANDING COMMITTEES 1961-1962

Policy: Current Officers and Past Presidents.

Publications: James D. Hart (Chairman), John Hussey, Oscar Lewis, Peter Sloss.

News-Letter: David Magee (Editor), Lewis Allen, John Borden, Don Fleming, George L. Harding.

House: Mrs. John I. Walter (Chairman), Mrs. John Branstent, Mrs. Robert Lundin.

Library: J. Terry Bender (Chairman), Julius Barclay, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Hansen, Austin Hills.

Exhibits: Duncan H. Olmsted (Chairman), Mrs. Herbert Fahey, Dan E. Malkin, Mrs. Harold Wollenberg.

Membership: Arthur L. Bloomfield (Chairman), Robert Dohrmann, Don J. Frediani.

Keepsakes: Albert Shumate (Chairman), Michael Harrison, Frederick Wemmer.

Our plans for the future—publications, keepsakes, observance of the Club's 50th Anniversary, etc. will be announced as they are developed. Suggestions from the membership are encouraged and always welcome.

—MARTIN S. MITAU

Quarterly News-Letter

Check List of 'Leaf Books'

By John Borden, David Magee & Duncan Olmsted

THE collecting of 'leaf books,' by which is meant publications containing original examples of typography or manuscript, is a comparatively late bibliophilic interest. Indeed, the earliest item known to the compilers of this list is Francis Fry's *A Description of the Great Bible* (containing no less than 14 original leaves) which was issued in England in 1865. The next earliest noted was published thirty-two years later in this country in a book by William Harris Arnold, a well-known American collector of the turn of the century (see No. 36). The most prolific period has been from 1930 to the present time. Evidence of this may be found in comparing our list with that of the late M. S. Slocum, published in the *Quarterly News-Letter* for March, 1940. Mr. Slocum records only twenty items; we record seventy-five. True, he purposely omitted all portfolios of leaves such as those by Haebler, Ege and Schreiber and included only bound books offered for sale, yet these are a mere handful of the total. Parenthetically, Mr. Slocum lists a Caxton "Polycronicon" leaf, issued by William H. Robinson of London. Here he is in error. The only 'leaf book' published by this firm of English book-sellers is *William Caxton, an Essay* by Holbrook Jackson with an original leaf from the *Chronicles of England*.

Every game has its rules, and the game of collecting 'leaf books' is no exception. What constitutes a 'leaf book'? In our opinion, to qualify for this check list the leaf must be an original printed page or manuscript and must be accompanied by some explanatory text. Thus a Caxton or Gutenberg page, though it be bound or laid in a folder and so labelled on the cover would be inadmissible unless there is printed descriptive matter within.

This check list has been made with much diligent research, yet its compilers are not so sanguine as to imagine that it is complete. Some privately printed item, issued in a dark corner of some continent, may well have eluded us. If such be the case the undersigned will be grateful for a note of it.

J. B., D. M., D.O.

The Book Club of California

1121-1935

1. ORIGINAL LEAVES FROM FAMOUS BIBLES, NINE CENTURIES, 1121-1935 A.D. Otto F. Ege, compiler and editor. Each leaf mounted on a mat, 19 x 13, with descriptive label. Series A, 37 matted Bible leaves, limited to 200 sets, 1936. Series B, 60 matted Bible leaves, limited to 100 sets, 1938. In a linen covered box. Philip C. Duschnes, New York, 1936-38.

1122-1923

2. ORIGINAL LEAVES FROM FAMOUS BOOKS, NINE CENTURIES, 1122-1923 A.D. Annotated by Otto F. Ege. Each leaf mounted on a mat, 19 x 13, with descriptive label. Deluxe edition, 50 numbered sets, each containing 40 matted leaves. Regular edition (Eight Centuries, 1240-1923), 110 numbered sets, each containing 25 matted leaves. In a buckram covered box. Philip C. Duschnes, New York, 1949.

14th century

3. THE GOTHIC SCRIPT OF THE MIDDLE AGES, by H. C. Schulz. Together with an original leaf from a Gothic manuscript Collectar. 36 pp. 11 x 8, henna figured silk over boards. 71 copies printed for David Magee by the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1939.

1450-1455

4. A NOBLE FRAGMENT, BEING A LEAF OF THE GUTENBERG BIBLE, 1450-1455, with a Bibliographical Essay by A. Edward Newton. 16 pp., 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$, full blue morocco. Gabriel Wells, New York, 1921.

1455

5. BIBLA LATINA E TRANSLATIONE ET CUM PREFATIONUBUS S. HIERONYMI. MAINZ, JOHANN GUTENBERG, *cir.* 1455. A leaf of the first issue of the first edition of the Bible and the first book printed with movable metal types. Descriptive essay by David A. Randall, 1 leaf, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, in linen covered box with leather back. About 30 copies, of which eight contained two or more leaves (some were complete or nearly complete books). Scribners, New York, 1953.

Quarterly News-Letter

1460

6. GUTENBERG AND THE CATHOLICON OF 1460. A bibliographical essay by Margaret Bingham Stillwell. Together with an original leaf of the *Catholicon*. 42 pp., 16 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 12, red cloth boards. Also a special edition, each with two leaves, bound in full leather. Edmund Byrne Hackett, The Brick Row Book Shop, Inc., New York, 1936.

1467

7. A LEAF PRINTED AT MAINZ BY PETER SCHOEFFER, 1467. CLEMENS V, CONSTITUTIONES CUM APPARATU JOANNIS ANDREAE. (Text by Pierce Butler), 4 pp., 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 12, white paper wrappers. In linen covered portfolio. (Pynson Printers, New York, 1939.)

1478

8. NICOLAS JENSON, PRINTER OF VENICE: HIS FAMOUS TYPE DESIGNS AND SOME COMMENT UPON THE PRINTING TYPES OF EARLIER PRINTERS, by Henry Lewis Bullen. With a leaf from Plutarch's *Vitae Parallelae Illustrium Virorum*, printed by Nicholas Jenson at Venice in 1478. 36 pp., 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$, marbled boards with parchment spine. 207 copies, John Henry Nash, San Francisco, 1926.

1478

9. WILLIAM CAXTON, by E. Gordon Duff. With an original leaf from the first edition of the *Canterbury Tales* printed by Caxton in 1478. 128 pages, 12 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$, green boards with red cloth back. 148 copies (145 on American hand-made paper, 3 on Japanese vellum). Printed for The Caxton Club by R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company at the Lakeside Press, Chicago, 1905.

1479

10. A LEAF FROM THE BIBLIA LATINA PRINTED BY ADOLPH RUSCH, *cir.* 1479. Essay by Jake Zeitlin and Arthur Ellis. 4-page folder, 20 x 13. About 70 copies printed for Grant Dahlstrom, Arthur Ellis and Jake Zeitlin on an Albion hand press by Arthur Ellis (Los Angeles), 1930.

The Book Club of California

1480

11. WILLIAM CAXTON, an essay by Holbrook Jackson. 16 pp., 11 x 8, brown paper wrappers. Together with: An Original Leaf from the *Chronicles of England*, printed by William Caxton at Westminster in 1480. 8 pp., 12 x 9, brown paper wrappers. 100 copies of the essay, 68 copies of the original leaf. 2 vols. in a brown pigskin case. Printed for William H. Robinson Limited, Pall Mall, at the University Press, Oxford, 1933.

1482

12. AN ORIGINAL LEAF FROM THE POLYCRONICON PRINTED BY WILLIAM CAXTON AT WESTMINSTER IN THE YEAR 1482. The Life and Works of William Caxton, with an Historical Reminder of Fifteenth Century England by Benjamin P. Kurtz together with a Note on the *Polycronicon* by Oscar Lewis and an Appreciation of William Caxton by Edwin Grabhorn. 68 pp., 11½ x 9, henna boards with tan cloth back. 297 copies printed for The Book Club of California by the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1938.

1482

13. A GENUINE CAXTON LEAF FROM HIGDEN'S "POLYCRONICON" WESTMINSTER 1482. 12 pp., 13 x 10½, mottled brown calf. Dawson's Bookshop, Los Angeles, 1934.

1482

14. WILLIAM CAXTON AND THE FIRST ENGLISH PRESS, by George Parker Winship. Together with an original leaf of the *Polycronicon*. 68 pp., 12½ x 9¼, full orange niger. Edmond Byrne Hackett, The Brick Row Bookshop, Inc., New York, 1938.

1485-1697

15. SPECIMENS OF WOODCUTS AND ENGRAVINGS. A portfolio of original leaves taken from rare and notable illustrated books. Each leaf loose in a folder 12½ x 9½. 15 folders of woodcuts and copper engravings dating from 1485 to 1697. 120 copies printed for The Foliophiles, Inc., New York, 1926.

Quarterly News-Letter

1487-1488

16. JOHANN AMERBACH, by Donald Jackson. 24 pp., 11 x 8½, blue paper wrappers. Together with: A Note on the Accompanying Original Leaf, printed in 1487-1488 by Johann Amerbach. The leaf is from *Lectura super quinque Libros Decretalium cum Repertorio Alphonsi de Montalbo* by Nicolaus (de Tudeschis) Panormitanus. Single leaf, 13¾ x 9¾, blue paper wrappers. 2 vols., 310 copies, The Prairie Press, Iowa City, Iowa, 1956.

1493

17. THE NUREMBERG CHRONICLE, a monograph by Henry Lewis Bullen. With one or more leaves from the first Latin edition. 50 pp., 19 x 12¾, marbled boards with leather back. 280 copies with a single leaf, 18 copies with 2 leaves, one copy with 3 leaves, 1 copy with 4 leaves. Printed for The Book Club of California by John Henry Nash, San Francisco, 1930.

1493

18. LIBER CHRONICARUM, A FOLIO OF THE NUREMBERG CHRONICLE restored from an incomplete copy from the Library of Lambton Castle, England. With a bibliographical note by Ernest Johnson. 12 pp., 17 x 11½, brown paper wrappers. The Country Bookshop, Greenwich, Connecticut, 1932.

1495

19. CODICES IMPRESSI, AN INCUNABULUM LEAF. A page from Froben's "Poor Man's" Bible of 1495 with a brief note on the printing art in the XVth century. 4 pp., 7½ x 5, gray paper wrappers. Printed by R. E. R. (Robert E. Runser), Detroit, 1951.

1497

20. THE NUREMBERG CHRONICLE, A PICTORIAL WORLD HISTORY FROM THE CREATION TO 1493. A monograph by Ellen Shaffer, with a leaf from the pirated Augsburg Latin edition of 1497. 82 pp., 13¼ x 9, blue pictorial cloth boards. 300 copies printed for Dawson's Book Shop at the Plantin Press, Los Angeles, 1950.

The Book Club of California

1497

21. A FIFTEENTH CENTURY SURGEON, HIERONYMUS BRUNSCHWIG AND HIS WORK, by Henry E. Sigerist, M.D. With an original leaf from the 1497 edition of *Chirurgia*. 52 pp., 11 x 7¾, yellow paper boards, orange linen back. 112 copies printed for Ben Abramson at the Profile Press, New York, 1946.

1499

22. THE GARDEN OF HEALTH, an account of two herbals, the *Gart der Gesundheit* and the *Hortus Sanitatis*, by Ellen Shaffer. With an original leaf from the *Hortus Sanitatis* printed by Johann Pruss in Strassburg in 1499. 64 pp., 13 x 9, mulberry boards with linen back. 300 copies printed for The Book Club of California by Lawton Kennedy, San Francisco, 1957.

1499

23. ALDUS PIUS MANUTIUS, with an essay by Theodore Low De Vinne together with a leaf from the Aldine *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* printed at Venice in 1499. 44 pp., 11¾ x 8, brown boards with black cloth back. A few copies had more than one leaf. 250 copies printed for The Book Club of California at the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1924. Actually there were only 192 copies with an original leaf; 50 copies with a facsimile leaf were offered in 1955.

15th century

24. A LEAF FROM A FIFTEENTH CENTURY FLEMISH BOOK OF HOURS, with an introductory essay by H. C. Schulz. 28 pp., 8½ x 5½, blue boards with gold and blue leaf design, tan cloth back. 120 copies printed for David Magee at the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1938.

15th century

25. FRENCH ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPTS, by H. C. Schulz. With an original leaf from a miniature Book of Hours. 44 pp., 7¾ x 5¾, cream boards with orange and beige design, parchment back. 200 copies printed for David Magee by the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1958.

Quarterly News-Letter

15th century

26. WOODCUTS FROM BOOKS OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY, shown in original specimens. Introduction by W. L. Schreiber, translated into English by Andre Barbey. 55 original leaves from books printed in Germany, Switzerland, Bohemia, the Netherlands and Italy, each matted and with a descriptive printed label. Text 86 pp., $18\frac{3}{4} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, in wrappers. Enclosed in a linen-covered box. 100 sets issued, 50 with German text, 50 with English text. Weiss & Co., Munich, 1929.

15th century

27. GERMAN INCUNABULA. 110 original leaves described by Konrad Haebler, translated from the German by Andre Barbey. Each leaf mounted on a mat, $21 \times 16\frac{5}{8}$. Text 68 pp., $21 \times 16\frac{1}{2}$, white paper wrappers. 2 vols., each in a tan linen drop case. 100 copies with English text, 103 copies with German text. Weiss & Co., Munich, 1927.

15th century

28. ITALIAN INCUNABULA. 110 original leaves described by Konrad Haebler, translated from the German by Andre Barbey. Each leaf mounted on a mat, $21 \times 16\frac{5}{8}$. Text 72 pp., $21 \times 16\frac{1}{2}$, white paper wrappers. 2 vols., each in a tan linen drop case. 100 copies with English text, 103 copies with German text. Weiss & Co., Munich, 1927.

15th century

29. WEST-EUROPEAN INCUNABULA. 60 original leaves from the presses of the Netherlands, France, Iberia and Great Britain, described by Konrad Haebler, translated from the German by Andre Barbey. Each leaf mounted on a mat, $21 \times 16\frac{5}{8}$. Text 68 pp., $20\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$, white paper wrappers. In a tan linen drop case. 100 copies with English text, 103 copies with German text. Weiss & Co., Munich, 1928.

15th-16th centuries

30. CHOSON-KO-HWAL-JA-PAN-SUP-YOP. A collection of 26 leaves from Korean books of the 15th and 16th centuries printed from movable type. Mounted in an album $13\frac{3}{4} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$,

The Book Club of California

wrappers. Text in Korean. 100 copies or less, Seoul, Korea (circa 1944).

15th-17th centuries

31. PRINTED PAGES FROM EUROPEAN LITERATURE. A portfolio of original leaves taken from rare and notable printed books. Each leaf loose in a folder, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. 20 folders of leaves dating from the 15th to the 17th centuries. 200 copies printed for The Foliophiles, Inc., New York, 1925.

15th-19th centuries

32. SPECIMENS OF ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS AND PRINTING. A portfolio of original leaves taken from rare Oriental Books and Manuscripts. Each leaf loose in a folder, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. 15 folders of leaves dating from the 15th to the 19th centuries. 120 copies printed for The Foliophiles, Inc., New York, 1928.

15th-19th centuries

33. HERBALS OF FIVE CENTURIES. 50 original leaves from German, French, Dutch, English, Italian and Swiss herbals, mounted on mats, $19 \times 13\frac{3}{4}$. Introduction and bibliography by Claus Nissen. 104 pp., $11\frac{5}{8} \times 8\frac{5}{8}$, green wrappers. In tan buckram portfolio. 100 copies with English text, L'Art Ancien, Antiquariat, Zurich, 1958.

1509

34. AN ORIGINAL LEAF FROM THE FIRST EDITION OF ALEXANDER BARCLAY'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF SEBASTIAN BRANT'S "SHIP OF FOOLS," PRINTED BY RICHARD PYNSON IN 1509, with an essay by James D. Hart. 32 pp., $12\frac{1}{4} \times 9$, gray and black designed boards with tan cloth back. 260 copies (145 contain an original leaf showing the black letter and Roman type, and 115 contain an original leaf with a woodcut) printed for David Magee at the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1938.

1510-1592

35. THE ESTIENNES, a Biographical Essay by Mark Pattison, illustrated with original leaves from books printed by the three greatest members of that distinguished family. 340 copies on

Quarterly News-Letter

Vidalon paper, 68 pp., 13 x 8¾, light maroon boards, white linen back. 50 large paper copies printed on Crown and Sceptre paper, 72 pp., 14 x 9, blue marbled boards, white linen back. The leaves vary: the first leaf, Henri I, is from either *Egregii Patris Ricardi de Superdivina Trinitate* 1510, or from *Galenii de Affectorum Locurum Notitia* 1512, or from *Galenii de Differentiis Foebrium* 1512; the second leaf, Robert, is from either *Eusebii Pamphili Evangelicae Praeparationis* 1544, or from *Eusebii Pamphili Evangelicae Demonstrationis* 1545; the third leaf, Henri II, is from *Dionis Cassii Romanarum Historiarum* 1592. 390 copies printed for The Book Club of California at the Grabhorn Press, San Francisco, 1949.

1525

36. FIRST REPORT OF A BOOK COLLECTOR; COMPRISING: A BRIEF ANSWER TO THE FREQUENT QUESTION: "WHY FIRST EDITIONS?" by William Harris Arnold. Illustrated with original leaves from damaged books (item noted contained 2 leaves from Froissart's *Chronicles* printed by Pynson in 1525). 10¼ inches, vellum. 110 copies printed at the Marion Press, Jamaica, 1897-8.

[To be concluded in the Fall issue of the *News-Letter*.]

The Grolier Club of the City of New York

By Gar Schmitt

THE people of France will long remember Jean Grolier for his unique position in French national affairs—first as Treasurer-General, as a friend of leading humanists and for his patronage of the arts. But many men will tell you that the greatest gifts Grolier left behind were his books which were handsomely clothed in bindings by superb craftsmen of Paris and carried the distinguished marking of: IO. GROLIERII ET AMICORVM.

The Book Club of California

It is no wonder then that on January 23, 1884, when Arthur B. Turnure addressed a letter to twelve New York gentlemen of kindred tastes suggesting the formation of a book club, that it should take the name of "The Grolier Club of the City of New York." Nine of the twelve men accepted the invitation and met in the library of a brownstone at 11 East 36th Street, the home of Robert Hoe, Jr.

The panel just inside the entrance of the Grolier Club clubhouse at 47 East 60th Street, designates these men as The Founders:

William Loring Andrews, merchant and banker, who retired from business at forty and became busily engaged in assembling a long series of historical monographs;

Theodore Low De Vinne, author of *The Invention of Printing* and the first president of the United Typothetae of America;

Alexander W. Drake, art director of *The Century Magazine* and pioneer in the development of the illustrated magazine;

Albert Gallup, aged thirty and junior of the group who later became park commissioner of the city of New York;

Robert Hoe, Jr., manufacturer of printing presses, whose book collection of 150,000 titles brought \$2,000,000 in 1911;

Brayton Ives, railroad and banking administrator, one of the few individuals in America to own a Gutenberg Bible;

Samuel W. Marvin, superintendent of Scribner's manufacturing department, who died at the age of seventy-three, the last survivor of the founders;

Edward S. Mead, member of Dodd, Mead & Company, known in those days as a firm of antiquarian booksellers;

Arthur B. Turnure, printer, designer, editor, later to become a partner in the operation of the Gilliss Press.

The Grolier Club, now in its seventy-seventh year and the oldest American club devoted exclusively to the arts of the book, stands today not only as a living monument to Jean Grolier but also as a fellowship dedicated to the promotion of those arts in the production of present-day books.

Following adoption of a constitution, election of officers and taking on Jean Grolier's arms as their device—an azure field with three gold bezants surmounted by three silver stars—the Club found its first quarters at 64 Madison Avenue between 26th and

Quarterly News-Letter

27th Streets and immediately laid plans for its first exhibition, a collection of 150 etchings. For three days the exhibit was opened to the public and attracted six hundred visitors.

From then on, word of the Club's formation spread rapidly, and the original restriction of fifty members was lifted and the membership quota was doubled. Today there are more than five hundred members. The Club is proud to point out that its roster includes many of the better-known American collectors, librarians, bibliographers, publishers and dealers of our day, and that its library of 32,000 volumes and 7,000 prints ranks high among the world's collection of materials for study of the book's appearance, personality and history.

Today, as in the days of the founders, members meet at the Club to share experiences in printing, binding, calligraphy and fine illustrations. Over the years there have been hundreds of lectures by leading authorities, informal meetings, dinners and bookish pilgrimages; more than 370 exhibits of the works of great authors, printers, illustrators, binders, and print makers have been held.

Of its regular functions perhaps none are more exciting than the colorful exhibits, painstakingly assembled with the help of members, universities and public and private libraries. Four or five times a year (excluding the summer months) members are invited to the clubhouse to view a new collection, hear an address by an eminent authority in the fields of arts or sciences and share their enthusiasm for books in an evening ending with supper.

Already the Committee on Arrangements is at work on the 1962 exhibition schedule which gets underway in October with a collection illustrating the influence of Italy on American literature. Next will come a collection in December on Edward Lear, the great English humorist and illustrator, and this will be followed by an exhibit called "The Book of Persia and India." From 10 to 6 p.m. the public is invited to view the collections, and Donald Hyde, the president, calls attention to the fact that both the exhibits and the Club's library are constant sources of reference for visiting librarians, scholars and students from nearby colleges.

To supplement its lectures and exhibits the Club has published over 200 volumes of considerable beauty and scholarly worth,

The Book Club of California

from the hands of such master craftsmen as De Vinne, Gilliss, Rogers and Updike, including reprints of masterpieces of other days, monographs on famous presses and a number of important exhibition catalogues and bibliographies. An interesting example was the publication of the engraved and typographic work of the versatile artist, Rudolph Ruzicka, which the Club was fortunate in exhibiting in 1948.

The Club's special lectures are as exciting as the exhibits themselves; for example, the presentation by fellow-member Frederick R. Goff, who spoke on "The Rare Book Division of the Library of Congress," or the talk by Dr. I. I. Rabi, Higgins Professor of Physics at Columbia University and Nobel Prize winner, on "The Dual Role of Science," presented at the opening of the exhibition of "One Hundred Books Famous in Science." Both attracted large audiences and gratifying press notices.

Another popular Club function is the Saturday tea throughout the fall and winter, and these are invariably well-attended by guests invited by a succession of sponsors. Meanwhile, exhibition openings continue to draw large numbers of members, frequently taxing the assembly hall. To date the Club has held more than 300 exhibitions. More than a third of these have been pictorial—prints or book illustrations. One quarter of the displays have been bibliographical—the works of individual authors, groups of authors, particular periods or special subjects.

The exhibition today is such a part of American cultural life that it is difficult to conceive a world without it. Yet in the 1880's the very concept of the exhibition, at least in the field of books and prints, was something of a novelty. In early days there were book fairs and trade displays, but the contributions of the Grolier Club to the growth of the exhibition idea were quality, mobility and continuity. In a large sense, the Grolier Club pioneered the exhibit of prints as we know it today. Miss Ruth Graniss, addressing the Club in 1943, after forty years of devoted custodianship, discussed the Club's exhibitions in broad detail and offered many instances of its influence. It was the Abbey show of 1886 which first brought that superb craftsman to general notice. The Club also provided the first great impetus to the recognition of the end-of-the-century masters of wood engraving, notably Timothy Cole. It exercised great influence in the establishment of

Quarterly News-Letter

Whistler's repute at a time when Whistler was regarded in some quarters as a lawless and ill-tempered innovator. It backed the French moderns when they were really modern.

The Club library is unique in many respects. It is fitting that the library of the Club's first president, Robert Hoe III, still holds the record as the most important library ever sold in America and that the first vice-president, General Brayton Ives, should have been one of the eight members of the Club to have owned a Gutenberg Bible. And William Loring Andrews is famous not only as a collector but as the publisher of a series of superbly printed and illustrated bibliographical, iconographical, and historical monographs, as the principal promoter of the Society of Iconophiles and as a patron of a number of gifted engravers of fine prints and bookplates.

Over the years the library has been the recipient of a number of imposing gifts and bequests. Outstanding items include a comprehensive Bruce Rogers collection from Frederick Coykendall, silver bindings from Beverly Chew and microscopic books from Samuel P. Avery. There are several French and Flemish books of hours, examples of Oriental illumination, more than seven thousand engravings, a large collection of bookplates and three books from Jean Grolier's own library.

The Grolier Club can provide the student and the collector with almost anything about a book. While the collection is neither the largest nor the most comprehensive of its kind in America, it is certainly the most accessible and therefore the most useful.

On March 23, 1959 the members gathered at the University Club in New York to mark an important milestone—the diamond anniversary of the founding of the Club. The Committee on Publications took the spotlight with its volume of 240 pages, *Grolier 75*, a project two years in the making.

Through the technique of thumbnail biographies, present-day friends of Jean Grolier were introduced to the great scholars and collectors of the Club's fellowship in years gone by. There were exactly 75 personal histories of men like Frederic W. Goudy, Brayton Ives, John Pierpont Morgan, Robert Hoe III and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

True to Grolier Club tradition, the book brought a number of exciting things to light. In Harry Shaw Newman's section on

The Book Club of California

F.D.R., students of history may be a bit surprised to learn that the President was an avid collector of naval history prints and that he began this collection before he entered Harvard.

Or, turning to Frederic G. Melcher's biography of Frederic W. Goudy, the reader appreciates the full impact Goudy had on the book world when he notes that the great designer's life total of over one hundred type styles has no parallel in printing history.

Members of the Club are most pleased with the appointment of J. Terry Bender, one of the Directors of The Book Club of California, who took over the post of librarian at the Grolier Club in May. Since 1955 Mr. Bender has served as Chief Librarian of the Division of Special Collections and Keeper of Rare Books at Stanford University. He has been a member of The Book Club of California for most of his residence in California.

Grolier 75, the work of a membership committee and *The Grolier Club (1884-1950)*, *An Informal History* by John T. Winterich are must readings for anyone who appreciates the fine production of books and prints. These publications are invitation enough for book-lovers to visit the Grolier Club on future trips to New York.

New Patron and Sustaining Members

THE FOLLOWING have changed from Regular Membership to Patron or Sustaining Memberships. It is most gratifying to see the names of several of our most recently added members in one of these categories. The two classifications of membership above Regular Membership are Patron Memberships, \$100.00 a year, and Sustaining Memberships, \$25.00 a year.

Patron Members

LAWTON R. KENNEDY	San Francisco
MISS DOROTHY L. KRISHER	San Francisco

Sustaining Members

MR. & MRS. BENJAMIN J. BAUM	San Anselmo
MRS. JOHN P. BERESFORD	New York, N.Y.
MR. CHARLES G. CLARKE	Beverly Hills
MR. HENRY H. CLIFFORD	Pasadena
MR. JOHN M. CRAWFORD, JR.	New York, N.Y.
COL. ALLEN GRIFFIN	Monterey
MR. & MRS. ROBERT S. GUNDERSON	Atherton
MR. BERNARD ROLNICK	New Rochelle, N.Y.
MR. STUART B. SCHIMMEL	Rye, N.Y.
MR. EDGAR J. SCHOEN	Denver, Colo.
MRS. VIRGINIA WALKER	Westmorland
MRS. JOSEPH WESTHEIMER	Beverly Hills

Quarterly News-Letter

Elected to Membership

The following have been elected to membership since the publication of the last News-Letter.

<i>Member</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Earl C. Adams	Los Angeles	J. S. Holliday
The Bancroft Library	Berkeley	George P. Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. J. Gordon Barnes	Stockton	Donald Schwabacher
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin J. Baum	San Anselmo	Daniel Stone
Mrs. L. A. Bossana	San Francisco	Robert Bell
John Brooks	Alameda	Kerwin Whitnah
James F. Carr	New York City	Robert Bell
Mr. & Mrs. John Class	Riverside	Francis Farquhar
Kenneth W. Donelson	Sacramento	Michael Harrison
Louis Eaton	Los Altos	Robert Bell
Harry L. Freeman	Mexico City	Thornton G. Douglas
Robert N. Gold	Los Angeles	Alice Heyneman
Mrs. Don Goldeen	Los Gatos	Robert Bell
Robert A. Hanson	Berkeley	Warren Howell
Charles W. Horn	Fresno	R. E. Combs
William H. Ilsley	Northboro, Mass.	Morrill Ilsley
Robert Levine	Cleveland	Robert Bell
H. Glenn Lutge	San Jose	Rocco Crachi
Father Francis Markey	Capitola	Robert Bell
Robert J. Moes	Los Angeles	Donald Charnock
Charles A. McKeown	Orinda	Warren Howell
Doyce B. Nunis	Los Angeles	James Abajian
W. Scott Polland	Ross	Warren Howell
Madeleine Russell	San Francisco	Robert Bell
Elmer D. Samson	San Francisco	Maynard Garrison
Mr. & Mrs. Warren A. Sinsheimer	San Luis Obispo	Robert Bell
William John Williams, Jr.	Kentfield	John Swingle
Donald C. Wolf	Oakland	Alameda Library

Annual Meeting

THE ANNUAL MEETING of The Book Club of California was held Tuesday noon, March 14, 1961, in the Club Rooms, David Magee presiding. Reports covering the year's activities, publications, library acquisitions, and exhibits were given, and discussion followed. Both the president and the treasurer's reports concluded that the Book Club had had a profitable and progressive year, and the president expressed his appreciation to officers, directors, and committee chairmen for their support. He particularly expressed gratitude to those members who had responded to his letter of last spring by increasing their dues from Regular membership to either Sustaining or Patron memberships, pointing out

The Book Club of California

that over 120 members had become Sustaining members and seven had become Patron members. This increased amount, he stated, would be accumulated in special accounts for future major improvements.

Martin S. Mitau was elected president; Joseph Bransten, vice-president; and George L. Harding, treasurer. James D. Hart, president of the Book Club from 1957 to 1959, was welcomed back on the Board of Directors to succeed David Magee, whose six-year term has expired. Mr. Magee was extended a vote of appreciation for his service to the Club, and Mr. Mitau expressed the opinion that Mr. Magee had been "one of the most active presidents the Book Club has ever had." Succeeding Carl I. Wheat and W. W. Robinson, whose terms had also expired, were Theodore Lilienthal and Henry H. Clifford.

Serendipity

SELDOM HAS THERE been seen so magnificent a catalogue as the one presented to members of the Grolier Club and other bibliophiles by Carroll Harris on the occasion of the exhibit and banquet at the Palace of the Legion of Honor on April 22. This catalogue, *Fine Printing and Bookbinding from San Francisco and Its Environs; A Representative Exhibition for the Grolier Club*, selected and catalogued by David Magee, is destined to be sought after by collectors long after viewers of the exhibition itself have forgotten details of the evening. Two hundred copies were printed by the Grabhorn Press, and among the presses catalogued are The Allen Press, The Nova Press, The Archetype Press, The Peregrine Press, The Equinox Press, Lawton Kennedy, Mallette Dean, and about twenty other presses. Binders included are Herbert and Peter Fahey, Belle McMurtry Young, Florence S. Walter, Margaret B. Harrison, and Duncan Olmsted. The catalogue is bound in cloth-backed boards by Jane Grabhorn.



SOME OF THE MEMBERS may have occasion to recognize an illustration in a recent textbook by McGraw-Hill, *American Literature: a College Survey*. Permission was obtained by the publishers from the Book Club to use one of Mallette Dean's drawings from the Club's 1956 publication, Jeffers' *Themes in My Poems*. The editors, Clarence A. Brown and John T. Flanagan, selected Jeffers' poem "Hurt Hawks" for this survey but felt that it wasn't complete without the most perfect illustration for the poem they had seen.



THE GROLIER CLUB'S California Week though a long time in planning and anticipation was too quickly over. Starting with an exhibition of Bay Area printing and binding (with an exquisite catalogue provided by Carroll Harris, compiled by David Magee, and printed at the Grabhorn Press) at the Palace

Quarterly News-Letter

of the Legion of Honor on April 22 and followed by a banquet, the tour followed to Stanford for exhibitions, a reception, and private dinner parties. On the 24th, the day was spent at the University of California and its libraries, and the members attended a reception given by the Chancellor at University House. Their last day in San Francisco the members enjoyed a very full day beginning with a boat cruise to Tiburon for lunch, following with individual visits to various libraries in the city such as The Book Club, the California Historical Society, the University of San Francisco and Sutro libraries, the Society of California Pioneers, and others. The final event was a farewell cocktail party given for Grolier Club members by David Magee and Warren Howell at the Bohemian Club to meet Roxburghe Club members and other bibliophiles.

The party left for Southern California the following day with stopovers at San Simeon, Santa Barbara, and Camarillo. A combined book exhibition by Los Angeles area booksellers began the bibliophilic round of events, which included tours to the Honnold and Scripps Libraries, the Huntington Library, the William Andrews Clark Library, the Belt Library, and the Southwest Museum. On Sunday, April 30, the tour ended with a breakfast at the Hillcrest Country Club, and the members departed for New York.



TWO OUT OF THE THREE Book Club of California 1960 publications were chosen for inclusion in the 20th Annual Western Books Exhibit sponsored by the Rounce & Coffin Club. These are *A Trip to the Gold Mines of California in 1848* printed by Taylor & Taylor and *Landscape Prints of Old Japan* by the Grabhorn Press.

Selection of twenty-three books was made by a panel consisting of Roby Wentz (Zamorano), William R. Eshelman (Rounce & Coffin) and Donald R. Fleming (Roxburghe) from a group of fifty-two entries.

Two traveling exhibits are now on the road. The Book Club, as usual, previewed one of the exhibits which will now travel to other libraries in California (including the San Francisco Public Library, June 23 to July 7) and the West. The other traveling exhibit will cross the continent and be shown as far as Boston. Members should check with their nearest large library to see if an exhibit is scheduled and the dates.

Lawton Kennedy led the list with four selections, and Robert Reid of Vancouver placed with three beautiful volumes. Other presses represented included the Grabhorn Press, the Rampart Press of Scottsdale, Arizona, The Plantin Press, the Ward Ritchie Press, and the University of California Press.



CERTAIN COLLECTORS are still annoyed with themselves for not having started collecting William Everson when it was still easy to do so. This annoyance

The Book Club of California

grows to something more violent when they see the new book, *The Year's Declension*, published in April. Kenneth J. Carpenter handset and printed this book on the Berkeley Albion in the General Library of the University of California at Berkeley. Six of the twelve poems have never appeared in print before. The book is drawn from work completed in the late 1940's, just prior to the poet's conversion and entrance into the Dominican Order. The poems represent an important period in the poet's life and reveal an intense imagery and deep feeling. *The Year's Declension* is limited to fifty copies and sells for \$20.00. On the chance that there might be one or two left at this writing, members are advised to communicate with its sole distributor, The Porpoise Bookshop, 308 Clement Street, San Francisco 18.



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in type specimen books, ask the next time you are looking over the library at the Club rooms to see the book *Types at the Chanter Press*, a result of the combined efforts of the Junior and Senior Typographic Design students in the Department of Painting, Design and Sculpture at Carnegie Institute of Technology, under the supervision of Professor Jack W. Stauffacher. The book, entirely set by hand in the types available at their laboratory, was printed in an edition of two hundred copies. (It required "approximately twenty thousand determined turns of the hand-crank by our student pressmen.")



THE APPEARANCE of Volume 1, Number 1 of "Bulmer Papers" marks the beginning of an unusually worthwhile private press project. The purpose of the "Bulmer Papers" is to present the results of research into the typography, life and associates of the renowned English printer, William Bulmer (1757-1830). The first number consists of 12 pages 7½ by 10 inches, printed in a very small edition on an Adana press. 24 copies are available for sale at \$4.00. The printer-publisher-scholar is Peter C. G. Isaac, Allenholme, Wylam, Northumberland, England.



MEMBERS WILL be happy to learn that the Club rooms have been newly decorated. The walls have been completely repainted, and new drapes have been hung. Both the rugs and the furniture have been cleaned, and other fixtures have been washed. This refurbishing provides an excellent opportunity to invite all members not familiar with the Club's headquarters to drop by to get acquainted. Hours are 2:00-5:00 Tuesdays through Fridays and 1:00 to 9:00 on Mondays.

Herbert West, Bookseller

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN FIRST EDITIONS

PRESS BOOKS

[*PUBLISHER OF WESTHOLM PUBLICATIONS*]

Send for Catalogues 15 and 16

BOX 82 · HANOVER · NEW HAMPSHIRE

From the Rare Book Collection of the Sutro Library

A FACSIMILE EDITION OF SAMUEL HARTLIB'S

DESCRIPTION OF THE FAMOUS KINGDOME OF MACARIA

London 1641

Introduction and biographical sketch by RICHARD H. DILLON

Librarian, Sutro Library

Author of Embarcadero and Shanghaing Days

Samuel Hartlib was contemporary with Pepys, Milton, Boyle and companion to the leading men of letters of his time. Sir Christopher Wren called him "eminent amongst the Ingeniosa," and John Evelyn found him "Master of innumerable curiosities and very communicative."

Price \$2.50 (add 4% tax in California)

Élan OF SAUSALITO, *Publishers*, 1961

Under direction of Wallace Kibbee, 116 Grove Ave., Corte Madera, California (*address orders and make checks payable to Wallace Kibbee; or order from your dealer*).

BOOKS
FOR COLLECTORS

WATCH FOR CATALOGUE 78

DUE SOON

HOLMES

NEW BOOKS

OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS

RARE BOOKS

WESTERN AMERICANA

LIBRARIES PURCHASED

The Holmes Book Company

ESTABLISHED 1894

Main Store: 274 - 14th Street, Oakland 12, TWinoaks 3-6860

Also in Oakland: 1722 Broadway, Oakland 12, HIgate 4-0792

San Francisco Store: 22 Third Street, San Francisco 3, DOuglas 2-3283

Printed at the Grabhorn Press